

REMARKS:

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims **22** and **27-32**.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

35 USC 102

The Examiner has rejected claims **21**, and **23-26** under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,218,280 to Kriliouk et al. (hereinafter Kriliouk). In rejecting the claims, the Examiner states that Kriliouk teaches every element of the rejected claims.

10 The Applicants respectfully traverses the rejection. The Examiner has indicated that claim **22** would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. To expedite prosecution the applicants have cancelled claims **21** rewritten claim **22** in independent form. In addition the Applicants have amended claim **23** to depend from claim **22**. Thus, for the reasons indicated by the Examiner, the Applicants submit that claims **21** and **22** are allowable over Kriliouk. In addition,
15 to further expedite prosecution, the Applicants have amended claim **24** to recite that the epitaxial layer is removed from the buffer layer, as in claim **22**. The Examiner has indicated that Kriliouk does not teach this feature. In addition, claims **25-26** depend from claim **24** and recite additional features therefor. As such, for the reasons cited by the Examiner, the Applicant submits that claims **22-26** are not anticipated by Kriliouk and define an invention suitable for patent
20 protection.

OTHER REFERENCE CITED

The Examiner has cited US Patent 6,218,269 to Nikolaev and US Patent 6,064,078 to Northrup. The Applicants submit that neither of these references is particularly relevant to the claims as they presently stand in the application.

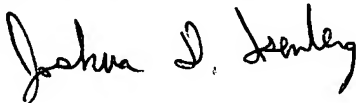
Appl. No. 10/023,910
Amdt. Dated Jan. 2, 2004
Reply to Office Action of October. 8, 2003

Agent's Docket No.: CBL-104/DIV

CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, the Applicant submits that all claims are allowable over the cited art and define an invention suitable for patent protection. The Applicants therefore respectfully
5 request that the Examiner enter the amendment, reconsider the application, and issue a Notice of Allowance in the next Office Action.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: Jan. 2, 2004

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